

# FAITH IN ACTION

Trinity Presbyterian Church Newsletter



## From the Pastor's Studio

At our last session meeting our leaders made a verbal commitment to building community through implementing a new model for our committee structure. Our committees are invaluable to how we function in life and mission as a church. Yet, for many years they have struggled, sometimes showing promise but on average consisting of 4–5 people, usually the same people, doing all the work by themselves. This can lead to frustration, burnout, growing resentment, and the 80/20 rule (80% of the work done by 20% of the people—have I mentioned how much I deplore the 80/20 rule?!). In the past, the solution was simple: just get more people to join! But in all honesty, that doesn't work anymore. Additionally, there is nothing more frustrating than offering your gifts and then there is no follow-through. Before we invite someone onto a committee, we must answer the questions “What are we inviting them to do?” “How is our work inspiring others to join in?” and “How are we delegating the work outside of our small groups to include the gifts of others?”

Peter Block, author of the book our Session is reading, warns that a community will begin to feel “stuck” if they maintain the status quo and do not exercise their imaginations for what is possible, marginalize people's gifts, lose focus on relationship building, and believe their leaders can solve the problems for them. We do not intentionally do these things but this ethos solidifies when the only ones doing the work of the church are those who show up for the one-hour meeting once a month.

As we dream of possibilities for our future, we are going to be re-forming our committees' purpose. The work of our leaders will be to help organize and strategize our goals and projects—thinking about who outside the committee can be asked to help with a given project to build church engagement. We understand that not everyone can make a Monday night meeting and/or meetings aren't for everyone.

On March 17, the Church Life Committee will host a Church Engagement Fair, where our committees will communicate what they do as well as some of their projects for the year. You are invited to learn more and share your ideas about bringing new life to our kingdom work (this does NOT mean you are committing to heading up that project!).

Please hear, we are so very grateful for those who have showed up time and again to do the grinding work of the church. You have kept it running for many years and we celebrate all that has been and is being done. The Session's worry is that this model is no longer sustainable and the current way of doing things actually excludes others from joining our work and sharing their gifts, dismantling community rather than inspiring involvement and building community as before.

I'm truly grateful for a group of kingdom people willing to ask these difficult questions, addressing our changing times with realism and hopeful possibilities. It may be awkward, but I believe it will bear fruit with time. And, at the very least, we can honestly say we gave it our best shot.

~With care, Jon.

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**Trinity Presbyterian Church  
is committed to being an  
open and affirming  
intergenerational church  
who, through the gospel of  
Jesus Christ and with the  
Spirit, embodies God's love,  
builds community, and  
works toward justice.**

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## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### This week at Trinity:

- Feb 20: Zumba 6:00 p.m.  
Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.
- Feb 21: Tai Chi for Wellness 10:00 a.m.  
12:00 p.m.: Men's Luncheon (The Sherwood Restaurant, corner of Peace Haven & Robinhood)
- Feb 24: Sunday School/Coffee Catch-Up 10:15 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.: Worship/Children-led/  
String-led  
Blood pressure checks following Worship  
Refreshments and Fellowship following  
Worship  
7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

### Looking Ahead

- Feb 25: Zumba 6:00 p.m.
- Feb 27: Knitting 2:00 p.m.  
Zumba 6:00 p.m.  
Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.
- Feb 28: Tai Chi for Wellness
- March 3: Sunday School/Coffee Catch-Up 10:15 a.m.  
Worship/Communion Sunday  
Refreshments and Fellowship following  
Worship
- March 5: Presbyterian Women 4:30 p.m.
- March 6: Ash Wednesday Soup Supper & Service 5:30 p.m.

### Serving on Sunday

Door Greeter: Tom Hedgecock  
Head Usher: TBD  
Worship Leader: Children  
Acolyte: TBD  
Water Bearer: TBD  
Offering Helper: TBD  
Little Lights Nursery: Preferred ChildCare, Inc.  
Refreshments After Worship: Martha Hicks & Laura Spedding  
Office Volunteer: TBD

## Trinity Happenings

### TPC's Black Lives Matter Book Discussion Group

As part of Trinity's Black Lives Matter focus, we will be starting a book discussion group this spring. Our first selection will be *Waking Up White*. Future books will be chosen by participants from the BLM book list in the narthex. If you are interested in joining us, please contact [the office](#) and include a suggestion for days and times, beginning after Easter.

On March 3rd, we will be **welcoming four new members!** Art and Catherine Morrisette, Raegan Dalbo (John Senior, Ty, and Dori by extension), and Molly Cinderella (and baby Elizabeth, by extension). Please take a moment to introduce yourself to them and help them feel at home. We are also grateful for all who attended the New Member Class to learn more about Trinity and continue to be present in Worship and in the life of the church.

Join us for **Soup Supper & Service** at 5:30 p.m. on Ash Wednesday, March 6th. This simple soup and bread supper will be followed by the imposition of ashes at 6:15. The Worship and Spiritual Growth Committee is asking for help providing three pots of soup (one vegetarian), and some bread/crackers. If you can provide either, please contact Cindy Bodenheimer.

**Free Books!** The Library Committee is reviewing the current library books. Some have been used rarely over the past 15 years, but yet may be useful to members of our church family. Visit the table in the Fellowship Hall to see if you would like to offer a home to some of the books. We will keep Bible resource books, as well as commentaries and various translations. Please do not remove books from the library itself as we continue to review our offerings.

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### Session Members, Committees, and Groups

Clerk of Session: Carol Kayler	Bodenheimer
Building & Grounds: John Engle	POAM: TBD
Church Life: Mel Gee	Justice Team: David Bathory, Donna
Community & World Service:	Hamilton
Carol Kayler, Susan Hudson	More Light Liason: David Bathory
Personnel & Finance: Tom Hedgecock	Environmental Green Team: Ron
Personnel Subcommittee: Heather Hosey	Richwine
Stewardship: Richard Browne	Deacons: Jeff Riddle, Bea Stuber, Sue
Worship & Spiritual Growth: Cindy	Baker

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# Call to Action

## Support a Healthy Environment for Ashley Elementary Students & Staff

As followers of Jesus, we are called to care for the health and healing of our neighbors (Luke 9:1-2). One way we do this is by supporting Action4Equity in advocating for a new building for Ashley Elementary, where students and staff have long suffered from health problems due to mold. After months of pressure, WS/FCS is hosting community meetings on design plans for a new Ashley Elementary. Please help represent Trinity and PIRD at one of the meetings: Monday, Feb. 18, 2:30-3:30 PM or Thursday, February 21, 5:30-6:30 PM. Both meetings will be held in the Ashley Academy Media Center (1647 Ashley School Circle). Please wear black in solidarity with Action4Equity. For more information please visit <https://www.action4equityws.org/>

## Communicating Effectively About Racism

Do you get tongue-tied when a total stranger makes a disturbing remark in your presence? Are you frustrated with your ability to communicate effectively when racism emerges in conversations with family or co-workers? Bring your own stories to this workshop on non-violent conversation/action with Rev. Willard Bass of the [Institute for Dismantling Racism](#), and Rev. Christy Clore. Thursday, Feb. 21st, 6:30-8:00 PM at SHARE Cooperative, 603 Peters Creek Parkway, Winston-Salem (the SHARE Community Center is around the left side of the shopping complex). To inquire or register, please contact [Sydney Hughes-McGee](#). Suggested donation to IDR of \$25.00.

**The Trans Health and Wellness Conference, *Breaking Bonds, Building Bridges: Creating Trans Health Equity* will be at the Benton Convention Center March 7-9.** It is a collaborative effort between Wake Forest University Bowman Gray Medical School, Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, NWAHEC, Bathory International and the transgender/non-binary community to help educate one another in current research, best practice, and Grassroot needs and expertise. For more information about being an exhibitor, or other ways to support this conference, please contact Ellen Kesler of Northwest AHEC at 336-713-7712 or via email at [ekesler@wakehealth.edu](mailto:ekesler@wakehealth.edu)

**Interfaith Winston-Salem** is partnering with the **Carlton Mitchell Lectures** to present *A Wider Welcome*, featuring Dr. Bill Gaventa and Rev. LaTonya McIver Penny. This half-day collaborative event aims to widen and strengthen how faith communities include persons who live with disability, difference, or special needs. This event takes place at Knollwood Baptist Church, Saturday, February 23, from 1-4:30 p.m. For further information contact [Diane Lipsett](#) or [Bill Leonard](#).

**Triad Now** is holding an International Women's Day Luncheon Saturday, March 9 from 12 noon until 2:00 p.m. at Parkway UCC, 1465 Irving St. The keynote speaker will be Purity Ruchugo, international philanthropist, educator, and entrepreneur. Get more information [here](#).

## Trans-Que(e)rying Theology: Practical Hermeneutics and Ministry Applications

[Ministries Beyond Welcome](#) is offering this workshop for those who are committed to creating radical welcome and hospitality to gender-diverse and sexuality-diverse community members. This event will be held Saturday, March 16th at 1:00 p.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church, Gastonia, NC. Please register [here](#) if you are interested. You can find out more information and opt in to additional event emails [here](#).

## COMMUNITY NEEDS

### CRISIS CONTROL MINISTRY

Food/Gift of the Month for February:  
Instant Potatoes

### BOLTON FOOD PANTRY

All-Purpose Cleaner  
Trash Bags (small boxes)

### MOSES BASKET

Bottles/Bottle Brushes  
Cotton Balls  
Baby Oil

## Christian Education



**Check out our exciting Intergenerational Quilt Project!**

**After Worship on February 24, March 3, and March 10, in the Fellowship Hall.**

Come to church and express your creativity by painting a block for our intergenerational quilt. No sewing necessary! You paint it and Janet Rolison will put it together. Please let her know if you want to decorate a quilt square, so that we can cut enough material to meet our needs.

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## From the Community Care Center



This is the time I reach out to you to talk about the Community Care Center. People with little or no dental insurance can go here for dental care. The staff is made up of volunteers who come in from other jobs to help the people in need.

Al Winn, father-in-law of Stewart Ellis who was a past minister of Trinity, was instrumental in starting this program. Dr. Winn was a giving person who used his tax refund for a worthy project and when he could no longer drive, gave his car to the Prodigals community.

The local Presbyterian churches have served dinner to the staff to show their appreciation. Beginning in February, we provide dinner every other month. We plan a meal for 18 volunteers. A typical meal would be a meat, vegetable, salad, and dessert. Usually several people will get together to prepare this meal. If you choose to help out, you may bring your prepared food offering to the church by noon Monday. I will be happy to deliver the meal. Please let me know if you'd like to help with this worthy project.

~Bea Stuber

## TRINITY SUPPORTS

### Support, Advocacy, & Education Groups That Meet at Trinity

- Tolerance AA Groups: Tuesday and Thursday, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Saturday, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- Help and Hope Al-Anon Family Group: Saturdays 5:00-6:00 p.m.
- Newcomers Club: 4th Tuesday of Each month, 10:00 a.m.
- WS Transgender Support Groups: Transgender ID-only Group/Friends, Family, & Partners Group meet every other Sunday, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Call 908-444-1524 for further information.

### Local Support Groups

- PFLAG: Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets at Highland Presbyterian Church at 2380 Cloverdale Ave, 4th Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Resource Link: [www.pflagws.org](http://www.pflagws.org); Trinity contact: Johnnie Midyette

## Prayers Please

### Our shut-ins:

Norma Hullihan	Doris Braithwaite	Jack Wooten
Bobbie & Gilbert McLeod	Micki Mabry	Julia Doub

### For other needs:

Micki Mabry & family as they mourn Bill's passing  
Jackie Hunt (personal cancer treatment and as she mourns the passing of her father)  
Marie Sifford (migraines)  
Linda Hedgecock (mobility issues)  
Carol Edmond (recovery from surgery)  
Teresa Tate (cancer)  
Rod Sugg (recovering)  
Elizabeth Humphries, a client of Disability Advocates, has requested prayers for her father Robert Ricker, 94, who has been diagnosed with cancer.

*Please call or email the [communications coordinator](#) with Prayer Requests.*

## Let Us Also Be Mindful

Victims of gun violence and their families, and the dialogue around preventing gun violence

Our immigration situation, and compassion from our leaders

Continued dialogue and action around racism in our city and country

The political discourse in our country

The worldwide refugee crisis

The victims of violence and their families

Caregivers

All of our troops and their families

Children at the Mission of the Good Shepherd in Belize

All those suffering from injustice and oppression throughout the world

## In Gratitude

To Carol Kayler and Tom Hedgecock for providing our committee night meal!

To Ann Shoffner, who is rocking our sound system and training others to do the same!

To Ron Richwine, our new leader for the Green Team!

For those who signed up for the SHARE Co-op. If you haven't done so, go [here](#) or fill out an application in the Narthex.

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## Extra! Extra!

Check out the lovely **Thank You** note sent to us from New Gospel Tabernacle Holy Church after receiving our donation toward the rebuilding of their church. That card is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Next week's newsletter will include a roundup of this past **Monday's Committee Night**. Please forward your recap to [Diana in the office](#) this week.

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## Links

**Jon's sermons** can be found on our website, check out his latest sermon here:

<http://www.trinitypresbyterianchurch.org/sermons/the-sky-is-falling-and-other-bad-news-jeremiah-17-5-10/>

Calendar on Trinity's website: [www.trinitypresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.trinitypresbyterianchurch.org)

[Call to Action](#), What's happening at Trinity and in our community. Get involved!

Also, check out the Salem Presbytery's [Salem Matters](#) online.

### BIRTHDAYS & CELEBRATIONS

**Paxson Gaska: February 20**

**Norma Hullihan: February 21**

**Laura Rose: February 23**

**Ginny Car: February 26**





### **Trinity's Regular Office Hours**

Monday: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Closed for Admin Duties

Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Friday: Closed

### **Trinity's Staff**

Rev. Jonathan Gaska, Pastor

Cristy Lynn Brown, Music Director

Jonathan Blake Borton, Accompanist

Terri Engle, Director of Christian Education

Sue Baker, Parish Nurse

Kim Young, Office Administrator

Diana Coe, Communications Coordinator

### **Trinity Presbyterian Church**

1416 Bolton Street | Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
336-765-8779 | [www.trinitypresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.trinitypresbyterianchurch.org)