

August 2022

FAITH IN ACTION

Trinity Presbyterian Church Newsletter

From the Pastor's Studio



In February 2022 we began meeting with the charge to create a new committee structure that would help Trinity live into our mission, reflect our current capacity, and facilitate greater communication, focus, and alignment of church activities. As part of this work, we facilitated open visioning/listening conversations on three dates, in-person and on Zoom, that engaged 41 people in identifying goals for our congregation for the next 1-2 years. The Session has identified these major themes as deep values held by Trinity:

- 1) Seeking Justice
- 2) Building Community (both within ourselves and with sister congregations, i.e. Dellabrook and El Buen Pastor)
- 3) Providing a space of oasis/rest/prayer to equip us for our ministries in the world
- 4) Continuing to be open, affirming, and intergenerational

The good news is that these values fit with our current mission statement like a glove, and therefore have a solid foundation and understanding of who we are and our identity.

To help implement what you've named as our values, we have a subcommittee currently in place to restructure our committees and we will be planning on having another lunch sometime in September to introduce their recommendation to you and solicit your feedback. Our committee structure has been long overdue for an overhaul, and as we try to find our footing as a small church with limited volunteers and energy, they have been working hard to make our committee work simple, practical, focused, and meaningful. (Shout out to Cindy B., Megan G., Brenda D., and George Edwards for their commitment to this subcommittee!)

On a related note, last month the Session approved becoming a Matthew 25 congregation (see page 3 or click [here](#) to learn more). Sometimes the General Assembly of the PC (USA) puts out these programs for churches to latch onto without much traction. Not so with this initiative! This initiative, led by our leaders of color, aims at equipping us and challenging us to live boldly into the gospel's calling for peace and justice locally. It provides us a much needed framework to lean on since we are all so busy and weary.

As you can see, things are picking up around here. (I'm actually busier this summer than I was during Christmas and Easter!) It's exciting to see our church's identity continue to take form, as well as stir us into the next chapter of mission and ministry together.

Grateful,

Jon

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Sunday 8/7

Join us on in person or on Facebook Live or Zoom for Worship on Sundays at 11:00am

The Zoom link is [here](#).

Upcoming Events:

Knitting Group - 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall on these dates:

August 24

September 7

September 21

October 5

August 1-6

National Black Theatre Festival

<https://ncblackrep.org/nbtf-2022/>

October 16

CROP Hunger Walk

Trinity Happenings

Weekly Sunday worship service on Zoom:

You may access the zoom link for the weekly worship service these ways:

- Click [here](#) for the link.
- Go to the weekly Snapshot email you get on Monday. The link is there.
- It is in the Wednesday Interconnections email,
- Go to our website: www.trinitypresbyterianchurch.org and it is on the home page.

You can also ask Jon, Cabell, or Paulette to forward you the link.

As you can see there are lots of ways to gain access to the service. If you need any help please let Cabell (tpcmedia@triadbiz.rr.com) know.

Scholarship News

Trinity's Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that we are providing scholarship assistance to Maggie Cameron for the 2022-2023 academic year. Maggie is attending Boston College where she is pursuing a Master's degree in Social Work. Contributions to the Scholarship Fund are always welcome.

Other Notes

Committees Under Construction: As we restructure our committees we ask for your patience. While some committees are still meeting, others are not. We have a task force in place (consisting of four members of the session) who are working with Jon to discern our direction and look at other ways of building up our committees to meet the needs of Trinity and help us move forward in a manageable way. If you have any concerns, please contact Jon. Thank you!

Session Members, Committees, and Groups

Under Construction

Community and World Service Update

Becoming a Matthew 25 church

At its last meeting, the Session voted for Trinity to become a Matthew 25 congregation. Matthew 25:31-46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, both the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) of the Presbyterian church challenged the PCUSA to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor.

There are already over a thousand Presbyterian congregations committed, identifying themselves as Matthew 25 churches. Trinity has a long history of doing social justice and caring for the disadvantaged

The three areas of concern for Trinity to embrace this program, are:

Building congregational vitality by challenging people to deepen their faith and get actively and joyfully engaged with their community and the world. A community's vitality is primarily its spiritual strength and its capacity to purposeful mission.

Dismantling structural racism by advocating and acting to break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.

Eradicating systemic poverty by working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.

The recent listening gatherings with Trinity congregants showed support for our church's commitment to social justice. To the Session, Matthew 25 looked like a framework to incorporate some projects that our church already is invested in, as well as to develop or take part in other initiatives that also might tie us more closely to other churches with a similar commitment.

CROP Hunger Walk Save the Date



Winston-Salem/Forsyth County
CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, October 16, 2022—Walk time 2:30PM Check-in time 1:30PM

Corpening Plaza

237 W. First Street

Winston-Salem, NC 27101

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.
- Disability Advocates: Monday-Thursday by appointment
- Newcomers Club: 4th Tuesday of Each month, 10:00 a.m.

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; Trinity contact: Johnnie Midyette

COMMUNITY NEEDS

CRISIS CONTROL MINISTRY

Food/Gift of the Month for August:

Peanut Butter & Jelly

BOLTON FOOD PANTRY

Cold cereal (such as Cheerios or corn flakes)

All-Purpose Cleaners

MOSES BASKET

Receiving Blankets
Socks
Baby Bibs
Washcloths

Session Information

June Session Meeting Highlights

- The Session sent a note of appreciation to Alan Cameron for building the table in the narthex to the right of the entrance to the sanctuary. Alan built the table from wood from the red oak tree that was removed from the front of the church.
- Total income for May was \$12,650 above budget while YTD income was \$80,464 above budget. Expenses for May were \$12,751 below budget and YTD expenses were \$62,070 below budget. Net income for May YTD was negative \$100. YTD net income was \$18,393.
- The Capital Campaign Committee reported on the progress of projects currently under contract. Additional potential projects using remaining funds were discussed and prioritized by the Committee. After estimates are obtained, the Committee will meet again to finalize the nature of the projects and propose a recommendation to Session for final approval.
- Session voted to become a PCUSA Matthew 25 congregation. As such, Trinity makes a commitment to building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty.

Good Samaritan Fund

As you may know, Trinity has a Good Samaritan Fund which is used to help people in need at the pastor's discretion. Usually we budget a minimal amount of \$200, and most years it is enough. This year however, the budgeted amount is long gone since there have been a lot of needs in the community--including a case last week where someone showed up on Sunday needing groceries and a place to stay (the shelters were all full). If you would like to contribute to this fund, please make a donation to Trinity and in the memo write "Samaritan Fund." This will help sponsor and provide a bit of hope to meet the needs of our struggling neighbors. Thank you!

Spiritual Growth

The Sunday morning Lectionary class will be at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall every week. Please contact Art Morrissette (afmorrissette@gmail.com) or Jim Voelker (jim_voelker@yahoo.com) for more information.

Youth Sunday School will be on hiatus in July and August. Classes will resume in September. Please contact Brenda Daniels for information.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



Gail Williams – August 4

Elinor Wilburn – August 8

Micki Mabry – August 16

Annie Ewell – August 17

Cristy Lynn Brown – August 17

Brenda Daniels – August 18

Nikki Elson – August 19

Art Morrissette – August 21

Joy Gaska – August 22

Jennifer Barber – August 25

William Hudson – August 25

Message from Trinity's Treasurers

Thanks to all who are continuing to support Trinity, both financially and in other ways, So far, we have been able to meet all of our financial commitments. This is happening by people mailing checks, using bill pay through financial institutions and using Vanco, our online donation system. Please stay safe! We hope to see you all soon!

You may still mail all checks to Trinity Presbyterian Church:

1416 Bolton Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27103-4798

or you may give online using the link below. Thank you!

<http://www.trinitypresbyterianchurch.org/online-giving/>

Our Online Giving Option is Available on Our Website!

Let's utilize this exciting new option to save time and the hassle of writing a check. You can access the secure online giving page directly on the home page of our website. You can access that option here. Many of you have inquired about fees incurred for this service: Vanco charges Trinity 2.75% + .45 per transaction for all credit/debit card payments. They charge 1% + .45 per transaction for direct debits to checking accounts. There is an option to add a bit to if you would like to help cover these additional charges.

Hunger Offering – Thank you!

Thank you to those who continue to support the hunger offering monthly. For the months of June and July, our monthly Hunger Offering was designated to go to Bolton Elementary School to help fund their field trips. This way we can help to ensure that ALL children are able to enjoy the school field trips during the coming school year, regardless of their ability to pay. Thanks to your generosity, we collected \$407.25 to give to Bolton Elementary School to help fund their field trips!

Links

Jon and other guest minister sermons can be found on our [website](#). Audio and PDF versions are available. The latest worship service from July 31 can be found [here](#).

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



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.

Trinity's Current Office Hours

Monday: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Thursday: Closed

Friday: Closed

Trinity's Staff

Dr. Cristy Lynn Brown, Music Director & Interim
Director of Spiritual Growth

Anna McRay, Accompanist

Sue Baker, Parish Nurse

Paulette Smith, Office Administrator

Cabell Edmundson, Communications Coordinator

Rev. Jonathan Gaska, Pastor

Trinity Presbyterian Church

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