

January 2024

FAITH IN ACTION

Trinity Presbyterian Church Newsletter

From the Pastor's Studio



Happy 2024 Trinity! The new year invites us to examine the pros and cons of the previous year. To name a few: As a church we have said farewell to beloved members of our church family and immediate families. We have also welcomed 10 new members into our church family. We have launched a new committee structure and put energy into more fellowship opportunities (and there's room to develop this deeper). We learned some Spanish and then said goodbye to our Spanish speaking friends. We hosted a Transformation Gathering and have been building power through our Broad Based Organizing efforts. Our Finance and Personnel Committee put on a great Stewardship Season. And our Clerk of seven years (Carol Kayler) and our Treasurer of 10 years (Johnnie Midyette) have passed on the torch after serving graciously. It has been a year of mixed blessings, just like every year. And I have a feeling this is going to be a "hinge" year as things could swing either direction for us, not only as a community and a church, but as a nation as well.

What I'm most excited about 2024, however, is what is happening for the next 10 weeks at Trinity: Confirmation! We have five confirmands (Jennifer Barber, Eden Gaska, Charlie Harper, Dashiell Hosey, and Jackson Parsons) who will be embarking on a journey of exploring their faith.

Megan Gregory, Brenda Daniels, and I will all be involved in shaping and facilitating the confirmation class. We are using a PCUSA curriculum called, "*Changing the World: Confirmation for the Missional Church*" and it is awesome! They try to shift our mindset from "Confirming for Membership" into "Confirming for Mission." Being that traditionally we confirm people to join the church rather than preparing them for the church's mission, we are intentionally trying to change how we hold confirmation classes with a stronger focus on the mission of the church rather than on simply becoming a member of it.

One of the other focuses is on having adult mentors who walk alongside our youth along the way. They are Beth Harper, Nikki Elston, Corbin Duncan, Cindy Bodenheimer, and Dave Sobie. They have been committed to holding space for our confirmands every week and to develop a relationship in a meaningful way. Please hold our mentors and confirmands in prayer as they enter into this journey together!

Lastly, "confirming for mission" is something we want the entire church to be involved in. The curriculum has a lot of videos and liturgies we can borrow so by the end of it our whole church is being confirmed into mission and not just our youth. We will be using these resources during our worship services, which means the whole church will really be journeying with our teens as well! Sneaky of us, I know!

Just so you know: we are emphasizing that there is no pressure to "join the church" at the end of this journey. This is a safe space for them and we want our youth to primarily understand who they are as loved, the gifts they have for service/justice, and their calling to help transform our world (possibly through the church, but not exclusively). If at the end they decide they are not interested in becoming a member of the institutional church, yet have a deeper desire for bringing love and justice (i.e. God's kingdom) into the world that is not only absolutely okay, but that is the point! (Plus anyone who is connected to Trinity is always connected in one way or another.)

I'm super excited for our start of this on Sunday and feel blessed to be a part of this shift as we lean in a bit more to our calling as an intergenerational church.

Happy 2024 Trinity! I'm excited to see what God's Spirit has in store for us this year...to be continued....

Peace,
Jon

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Sunday 1/7

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

The Zoom link is [here](#).

Upcoming Events:

January 3 & 17 at 2pm - Knitting Fellowship

January 6 at 2pm - Rod Sugg Celebration of Life

January 9 at 2pm - Frances Dyer Circle Meeting

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.

- 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 (tpcmedia1416@gmail.com) know.

Rod Sugg Celebration of Life

A celebration of life service will be held for Rod Sugg at Trinity Presbyterian Church on Saturday January 6, 2024 at 2pm. If you are able please consider parking at Forsyth Tech campus to allow parking for visitors. Following is his obituary:

<https://www.hayworth-miller.com/obituaries/edward-sugg-sr>

Session and Committees

Worship and Church Life—Brenda Daniels and Nikki Elston

Discipleship—Susan Parker and Megan Gregory

Finance- Jim Voelker

Building and Grounds—George Edwards

Nikki Elston—Clerk of Session

Deacons

Tom Bailey

Alice Scott

Laura Spedding—Moderator

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

Session Highlights

There is no update this month.

Worship Leaders Needed

Worship Leaders Needed- Please consider signing up. It's fun and easy, and a great way to connect with the church. Sign up on the [google form](#) or contact Nikki Elston at [nikkielston@gmail.com](mailto:nikkelston@gmail.com), or 202-491-9561.

Trinity Presbyterian Women – Frances Dyer Circle

The Frances Dyer Circle has resumed meeting in person again. All women and anyone else who might be interested in a lesson and fellowship are invited to come. The meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our Horizons study book for 2023-2024 is *Sacred Encounters*. If you do not have a book, we can make copies until more books can be ordered. Our next meeting has been postponed until January 9, 2024 at 2:00 pm. We are not currently having refreshments, but feel free to bring a beverage. We would love for you to join us.

COMMUNITY NEEDS

CRISIS CONTROL MINISTRY

Food/Gift of the Month for January:

January - Canned Stews (Beef Stew, Brunswick, Chili, etc.)

BOLTON FOOD PANTRY

Cold cereal (such as Cheerios or corn flakes)

All-Purpose Cleaners

Tall kitchen trash bags

Diced tomatoes (15 oz can)

MOSES BASKET

Receiving Blankets

Socks

Baby Bibs

Washcloths

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Brennan Gaska – January 4

Finn Hosey – January 9

Eden Gaska – January 12

Dave Sobie – January 13

Kevin Zuidema – January 13

Harper Browne – January 14

Johnnie Midyette – January 17

Linwood Sawyer – January 23

Ruthanna Dalby – January 25

Holly Sopko – January 26

Dustin Pettenati – January 27

George Edwards – January 27

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.

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.

Spiritual Growth

The Sunday morning Lectionary class will be at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall every week. Please contact Jim Voelker (voelkerj_24502@yahoo.com) for more information.

Links

Jon and other guest minister sermons can be found on our website. Audio and PDF versions are available. The latest worship service from December 31 can be found here.

Also, check out the Salem Presbytery's Salem Matters online.

Photo from the 2023 Crop Hunger Walk



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

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: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Friday: Closed

Trinity's Staff

Anna McRay, Accompanist

Corbin Duncan, Choir & Congregation Music Leader

Paulette Smith, Office Administrator

Cabell Edmundson, Communications Coordinator

Rev. Jonathan Gaska, Pastor

Trinity Presbyterian Church

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